

Brezhnev welcome for Dr Owen puts emphasis on detente

Dr Owen's visit to Moscow yesterday took an unexpected turn when he was welcomed in the Kremlin by President Brezhnev for an hour and a half's unscripted discussion on the importance of détente and

disarmament. The Soviet leader's regard for Britain's influence in these fields was evident. Half the Politburo turned out to see the signing of a treaty to avoid the spread of a nuclear war accidentally.

Soviet help sought on Rhodesia

pm David Spanier
Soviet Correspondent

Soviet, Oct 10
It has been a splendid day in Moscow. The carpet has been down, the tea has been drunk, President Brezhnev has been on top, and tonight half the Politburo turned out to see the Foreign Secretary and Mr Gromyko sign a nuclear treaty in the Kremlin.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly Mr Brezhnev welcoming Dr Owen to St George's Hall, a magnificent chamber in the Kremlin, an hour and a half late yesterday.

The two men entered, from opposite ends and advanced to the centre of the room to shake hands.

Owen looked just a shade more relaxed than the head of state going to meet the master. But Mr Brezhnev in jovial mood, and lost no time in ordering tea and coffee.

"Mr Gromyko chipped in that you can't build a union without coffee."

He told Dr Owen, "es-

pecially when it comes to a meeting, which came as a surprise to the British delegation developed into an unscripted discussion. The main

topic of Mr Brezhnev's re-

turn was on the importance

of détente and Dr Owen was

in no doubt that this is a

joint commitment for the

leadership.

Owen, when it came to

turn, explained that for

a détente went beyond

and made it clear as

he had earlier in the day in talks with Mr Gromyko—that Britain looked to Soviet understanding in reaching a settlement in Rhodesia.

This question, as it has emerged today, turns on the means of achieving détente in Africa. The British view is that the United Nations has an important role to play, and that all the main participants agree to the British plan, Dr Owen will go back to the Security Council to seek its blessing for a United Nations peace-keeping force.

The Soviet view about the United Nations role is far more reserved. Dr Owen received no promises today of Soviet support. But he did suggest that a peaceful change in southern Africa, rather than war and chaos, was in the Soviet interest too. The point will be underlined in further talks today, when the present confusions in the Horn of Africa, where the Soviet Union is heavily involved, may be cited.

The tone of Mr Brezhnev's remarks were described tonight by Dr Owen as extremely warm and friendly. The Soviet leader evidently regards Britain as having a degree of influence in international affairs, notably in détente and disarmament, which makes a foreign secretary 32 years his junior worth cultivating. He is looking to a longer term working relationship.

This explains the gala setting for the signature tonight of a very minor treaty, on the prevention of accidental nuclear war. It simply formalizes the kind of safeguard measures which nuclear powers normally take in any case.

But Mr Brezhnev turned out to watch the ceremony flanked by Mr Kosygin, the Prime Minister, Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Defence Secretary, Mr Vasily Kuznetsov, the newly appointed Vice-President and a crowd of other Soviet dignitaries. Drinks were served, everyone chatted brightly, and Mr Brezhnev, who was wearing a small hearing aid behind his left ear, joined in with a will.

This celebration for such a minor agreement set the seal on the new phase, in Anglo-Soviet relations.

The principal business of the visit, which continues tomorrow, is Dr Owen's discussions with Mr Gromyko. Here it seems that a wide range of topics are under discussion, though Dr Owen has been careful not to beat the drum on human rights too hard.

"We differ in some matters of a fundamental kind, especially in our view of the way human society best organizes itself," Dr Owen said, responding to a luncheon toast to Mr Gromyko. "Yet sterile argument will not improve understanding. Our task is to demonstrate, by example, those respects in which we believe our own society is successful in meeting the needs and aspirations of men. By listening to each other understanding can be increased and our policies influenced."

On the economic front, Dr Owen is emphasizing the need for a more active development, with British exporters keen to redress the trade balance.

Photograph, page 6

Double during docking attempt hampers Soviet space mission

Now, Oct 10.—The Soviet crew began preparing for a system for helicopter search and recovery.

The two previous failures—Soyuz 23 in October, 1976, and Soyuz 15 in August, 1974—had expected it to be a space spectacular to mark the twentieth anniversary of the launching of Sputnik 1 and the November 7 celebrations of the sixtieth anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

The Russians have had two previous Soyuz-Salyut docking failures that forced missions to abort immediately. In the previous cases, the Soyuz capsules returned to earth almost exactly 48 hours after liftoff.

Soyuz 25 lifted off at 5.40 am yesterday; and if the previous pattern of space failures holds true, the capsule can be expected to touch down about the same time early tomorrow.

Soviet mission control at the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan was believed to be preparing a massive emergency.

Hunt fined after striking official

James Hunt, the British driver, was fined \$2,750 (about £1,500) by the organizers of the Canadian Grand Prix—\$2,000 for striking a track marshal and \$750 for walking too close to the track after his car had been in collision with that of his team colleague, Jochem Mass, during the race.

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Teacher control

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has announced that the Government will legislate to give teachers greater representation on school governing bodies. She has also invited comments from local authorities and teachers on recommendations about school governing bodies.

Page 2

Hitachi lowers sights

Hitachi's undertakings to the Government on the operation of a planned television set factory in the North-East fell short of earlier expectations. Originally Hitachi talked of using 70 British components rising to 70 per cent after three years, but no specific undertaking was given.

Page 19

Italian floods chaos

Reconstruction work began in much of northern Italy after widespread floods which left at least 15 people dead and hundreds homeless. The floods were receding, but many communities were still isolated after landslides blocked roads. The River Po was still rising.

Page 19

Round-up in Moscow

Moscow police arrested Mr Alexander Podrabinek, a prominent Jewish dissident, and confined about 40 other Jews in their flats. It is thought the Soviet authorities want them restrained in the period leading up to the sixtieth anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution next month.

Page 6



Nobel Peace Prize winners: Amnesty International, the London-based organization which fights for human rights, was yesterday awarded the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize. The 1976 prize which was withheld last year, was given to Miss Maureen Corrigan (pictured left) and Mrs Betty Williams (centre), Leaders of the Northern Ireland Peace Movement.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee said Amnesty International, whose secretary-general is Mr Martin McGuinness (right), "has used its forces to protect the value of human life. Amnesty International has given practical humanitarian and impartial support to people who have been imprisoned because of their race, religion, or political views."

The two Belfast women were cited for the Peace Movement they formed to end the violence in Northern Ireland. The committee said: "Alfred Nobel's wish was that the peace prize should be given to those who most actively

worked for peace and brotherhood. Maureen Corrigan and Betty Williams, from a deep conviction that the individual person can make a meaningful contribution for peace through constructive conciliatory work."

In Belfast, Miss Corrigan broke down and wept when told she and Mrs Williams had won the 1976 prize, worth £77,000.

"I just can't believe it," she said. "I will devote my life to bringing peace back to the streets of Belfast. I do not care what the danger is."

In Stockholm, Mr Thomas Hammarberg, the chairman of Amnesty International's executive committee, said: "We will use the prize money (£80,000) to build our organization in countries where we are weak or nonexistent at the moment. We need to strengthen the organization in several African, Asian and Latin American countries."

"Our work is important because there are political prisoners in 60 to 70 countries. In more than 40 countries

people are tortured and in more than 120 countries there is still the death penalty. We see an increase in the death penalty for political crimes."

Mr Hammarberg said his organization had strict rules regarding the acceptance of large donations and that these had to be approved by the nine-member executive committee, which meets next in London in late November.

He said the timing of the announcement coincided with the annual "Amnesty Week" when the organization presents to the public a summary of its work.

The award ceremony in Oslo in December will also coincide with an international conference in Stockholm organized by Amnesty International and dealing with the death penalty.—UPI, Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Amnesty appeal, page 6

Leading article, page 13

Tory trade unionists urged not to pay levy

From George Clark
Political Correspondent
Blackpool

On the eve of the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool Mrs Thatcher, the Tory leader, suggested that there should be a change of government union members who vote. Conservatives should opt out of paying the political levy and play a more active part in branch meetings to curb activities of extremists.

Speaking at the annual dinner of Conservative agents, she said that party workers should not be asked to pay the political levy and that the members of the Conservative party should opt out of paying the political levy and play a more active part in branch meetings to curb activities of extremists.

There was clear evidence that the Conservatives were winning the "intellectual argument", she said. She gave as evidence the defection from the Labour of Mr Paul Johnson and Mr Reg Prentice. But the only true test of the conversion of ordinary people was at by-elections and local government elections.

There, there was evidence that the electors were swing towards the Conservatives and party workers must work to ensure that that continued. They should make it a bell point of their argument that the government was "not a socialist government"; it was an IMF government.

She said that a third of all union members voted Conservative and that was widely recognized by the union leaders. She took as an example the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, where, she said, there were 295,000 members and 249,000 had contracted out of paying the political levy.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, led by Mr Hugh Scanlon, had 1,200,000 members and almost a quarter (292,000) had contracted out.

Mrs Thatcher said that they should remind people that workers had made more progress since the war under Conservative governments than when Labour was in power. Those periods under Labour

Continued on page 5, col 1

30 held in Spanish anti-terror swoops

Madrid, Oct 10.—Police said today they had arrested 30 right-wing and left-wing guerrillas in an attempt to halt extremist violence in Spain.

Alleged members of the ultraright-wing group called the Apostolic Anti-Communist Alliance who had threatened to kill Senor Adolfo Suarez, the Prime Minister, by dismantling the Franco dictatorship, were taken into custody.

Mrs Thatcher said that the index of industrial production at last year's conference was 164; this year the official figures showed production down 102.8.

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Before Mrs Thatcher addressed the agents the final arrangements for the conference debates was announced by Sir Charles Johnston, chairman of the National Union Executive Committee of the Conservative Party. He said that the two motions selected by ballot were on race relations and Rhodesia. Many Conservatives found it hard to believe that a majority had voted for the comparatively

moderate motions.

Police said that among the 30 detainees were members of the organization's executive committee caught in a flat in the resort of Benidorm.

Police said they stumbled on the trial of the Triple A after they found two men who tried to sell an exclusive story to a Barcelona newspaper on a purported plot to assassinate Senor Josep Tarradellas, aged 78, the President of the Catalan exiled government. The type writer used was said to be the same one used for a communiqué which claimed responsibility for the El Papus bombing.

Police said that among the 30 detainees was a man who transported the explosives used against El Papus.

Senor Suarez and opposition leaders last night announced agreement on economic measures. These include price controls to reduce inflation and a 20 per cent ceiling on wage increases.

The Government and opposition plan further talks on Thursday to discuss political problems.—Reuter

Tension in forces, page 6

Human error blamed for oil rig blowout

Oil, Oct 10.—Human error was largely blamed for the oil rig blowout that pumped about 10,000 ft of production tubing from the well.

"Two warnings of abnormal conditions were received but inappropriate actions were not taken," the report said.

Each of these warnings should have resulted in the immediate ceasing of the work and closing of the well," the report said.

It added that the petroleum directorate had approved a programme for the "workover", but neither the directorate nor Phillips had all the documents and drawings needed by the men actually on the rig. The result was that oilmen on Bravo failed to heed warning signs while overhauling the well that went wild.

The report referred to inadequate organizational and administrative systems, and criticized nearly all those in charge on the rig, saying they had long practical experience but weak theoretical training.

The commission said that the eight-day blowout, which threatened an environmental disaster along the West European coast, spilled out 22,500 tons of oil and 60 million cu ft of natural gas.

The oil slick had spread over 150 square miles of the North Sea before the rogue well was capped.

The commission also criticized Phillips Petroleum, the American operators of the platform rig, and the Norwegian petroleum directorate. It said the blowout was the result of a series of direct and indirect circumstances but the immediate cause was that a mechanical safety device 110ft below the seabed had not been properly locked into place.—Reuter

British acts: The British Government has set up a team of 100 officials as an emergency "fire brigade" to coordinate action in the event of an Ekofisk-type accident in the British sector of the North Sea.

There were faults in the documentation of the installations and in the identification of equipment and how it should be used, the report said. There were also weaknesses in the stored programme for the "workover", improper planning, misjudgments, weak leadership and control and unreasonably long hours, with some men working up to 30 hours at a time.—Reuter

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Who were the first to bottle the spirit of Scotland?



For those with a taste for the original.

Wildenstein sale of furniture

A collection of furniture owned by the Wildenstein family of art dealers is to be sold by Sotheby's in Monte Carlo in December. Sotheby's estimates that the collection is the finest to be offered for auction for almost a century. It includes two exceptional pieces of the Louis XV period.

Melbourne: Arbitration talks to end power strike in Victoria collapse.

Rhodesia: Lord Carver had a brief interview at Heathrow airport with General Pienaar, the United Nations' special envoy.

Leading articles: Mr Breslinski; Concorde; The Nobel peace prize.

Letter page, 15

Reviews: On productivity, from Mr Graham Chapman and others; and on reforming the House of Lords, from Sir Ian Riley, and others.

Leading articles: Mr Breslinski; Concorde; The Nobel peace prize.

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HOME NEWS

Unions may call for inquiry into hospital

From Our Own Correspondent

Barnsley

A decision by trade unions whether to call for an inquiry into alleged shortcomings in the running of Barnsley's new £12m hospital is expected to be taken

standard hospital

Also, some 2,000

days of new building work

this year in capital

works in the pre-

s. For complaints

of housing

a much larger year

ago.

Mr Mason Secretary of State

for Northern Ireland, who is

MP for Barnsley, has assured

union leaders that he is

prepared to call for an independent

public inquiry if necessary.

His decision will depend

on the outcome of tonight's

meeting and on the findings of

Barnsley Community Health

Service Council, which meets

later this week.

The controversy arose after a

senior consultant at the new

hospital, Mr Sharad Mohanty,

as a last resort, had written

to the local newspaper with a

list of complaints.

He was supported by other sur-

geons and by the principal

nursing staff.

To take one example, he

had a new

instrument

delivered

but it was

delayed

and never

arrived.

Other complaints alleged that

corporation workers fitted eight

basic

units

into

one basic

unit.

Yet in the pro-

cess, Liverpool

had

and Canada

exhibition

expenditure

under

the Housing

Authority

compared with

13.5m.

The minister's

decision

was

to

allow

the

basic

unit.

The

National

Licensed

House

and

HOME NEWS

Britain's atom bomb 'obscured loss of role as great power'

By a Staff Reporter

Canada's decision to manufacture an atomic bomb in 1947 reflected her crucial role in wartime atomic research and her determination to continue as a great power, but obscured the country's changed status, Mrs Margaret Gowling, Professor of the History of Science at Oxford University, said last night.

In a public lecture at Leeds University, Mrs Gowling, the official historian of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, said there was little discussion in official circles from the decision of Mr (later Lord) Atlee's Labour Administration to build a bomb. Public fears were delayed in expression until 1957, when the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament was founded in response to the hydrogen bomb.

Professor Gowling said the only memorandum she had found in the archives that discussed the fundamental strategic and foreign policy justification for a British bomb in the immediate postwar period was written by the late Lord Blackett. He wrote to Mr

Article in late 1945 declaring that it would diminish rather than increase the country's security, as a disproportionate effort would be required to produce a stock of bombs no small to be of military significance.

Mr Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, countered with his own memo saying that Professor Blackett "should stick to his science".

Four years later, Sir Henry Tizard, Chief Scientist at the Ministry of Defence, wrote a prophetic minutes questioning the Government's whole great power philosophy. Quoted by Professor Gowling, Sir Henry said: "We persist in regarding ourselves as a great power capable of everything and only temporarily handicapped by economic difficulties. We are not a great power and never will be again. We are a great nation but if we continue to behave like a great power we shall soon cease to be a great nation. Let us take warning from the fate of the great powers of the past and not burst ourselves with pride (see Aesop's fable of the frog.)

Devolution support 'declining'

Support for Scottish independence is declining steadily, according to a poll published yesterday. Commissioned by the Scotland is British Campaign, the poll shows a decline in support for Scottish independence from 28 per cent in February, to 26 per cent in June and 25 per cent last month, the campaign said yesterday.

The poll, carried out by Fieldwork Scotland on a random sample of 1,000 adults, also showed a marked decline in enthusiasm for devolution, the campaign said. When the poll was first conducted in February 55 per cent said they would vote in favour of a devolution Bill in a referendum. By June it was down to 43 per cent, and the September figure was 38 per cent.

Mr Douglas Crawford, Scottish National Party MP for Perth and East Perthshire, said: "The Scotland is British Campaign would do well to look at the actual voting results where these results matter: that is, the ballot box."

Cheap air fare contest looms on Australia route

By Our Air Correspondent

British Airways is to apply to the Civil Aviation Authority in London on Friday for a return fare to Australia of £395.

On the same day the independent Laker Airways will also ask the aviation authority to allow a Skytrain-type service to Australia for £340 return.

If both applications are granted, a new commercial battle may be expected from January 1 between the two airlines, similar to the present one on the London to New York route. Laker is offering a Skytrain single fare to New York

of £53, while British Airways has countered with a stand-by fare of £64.

British Airways said yesterday that its proposed fares would work out at less than 2p a mile to Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and Brisbane. Bookings would need to be made 90 days in advance.

In March, April, May and November the return fare would be £395, a reduction of £55 on the present cheapest fare. In February, June and July it would be £475, a reduction of £75, and in the other months £530.

Morris was a shrewd and

Call to relax flying curbs on heart cases

By a Staff Reporter

The relaxation of licence requirements to allow pilots suffering from heart disease are not automatically disqualifying from flying, was urged yesterday at a conference in London of the Civil Aviation Medical Association.

Dr Peter Chapman, of British Caledonian, said it was rare for pilots to be incapacitated during flight by heart failure.

Statistics from the International Air Transport Association (Iata) for 1965-75 showed that of 144 cases of incapacitation, heart failure was the cause in only 11. That represented one case in every 22 million flying hours, he said.

Dr John Lemon, of Dan Air, supporting Dr Chapman's case, said that if staff were properly trained to cope with heart failure little danger need result.

Dan Air staff had been given with detailed instructions on how to spot pilot heart failure early and how to set when it occurred. They were told that the non-flying pilot could take over and that the flying pilot should be removed and not allowed back even if he had apparently recovered.

Dr Lemon said he did not fear relicensing all pilots who had suffered heart attacks, only those who had recovered to an acceptable level.

Dr Frank Preston, of British Airways, speaking on the medical problems associated with the Concorde, said 1979 would be a year of increased airline activity, with more solar flights.

That would mean that the Concorde would sometimes have to lower its flying altitude from about 55,000ft to 40,000ft to avoid excessive solar radiation.

Corrections

In the Labour Party conference report on Friday, Mr Lionel Lawrie, a delegate from Cheadle, was incorrectly called Mrs. Cynthia Roberts is prospective candidate for Eastleigh, Hampshire; not Leeds East, as stated on Saturday.

Mr Peter Hain addressed a Tribune meeting, not Tribune Group meeting, as stated on October 6 and 7.

Jury told man submitted girl to death by exposure

From John Cherrington

When the trial opened at Chester Crown Court yesterday in which David Walsh is accused of murdering two young bank clerks at Prestbury, Cheshire, last February, Mr Nigel Fricker, QC, for the prosecution, drew attention to the circumstances in which Miss Susan Hockenbush, aged 19, one of the clerks, died from cold and exposure on open moorland where she had been left bound and gagged.

Legal interest is centred on the trial because it is believed to be the first recorded case in Britain in which a man has been accused of murder by submerging his victim to death by exposure and cold.

Mr Fricker told the jury of nine men and three women that, while it might be contended that Mr Walsh did not kill Miss Hockenbush outright, the prosecution case would be that what he did, knowingly and willingly, was murder.

Mr Walsh, aged 25, of Weston Estate, Macclesfield, Cheshire, pleaded not guilty to the murders of Miss Hockenbush and her colleague, Mr Ian Jebb, aged 21, and of robbing them of £2,444.

The trial continues today.

By Judith Judd, of The Times Higher Education Supplement

About 15,000 teachers who qualified this summer are still looking for jobs, according to surveys by the National Union of Teachers.

The figures were disclosed yesterday by the Council for Educational Advance, when it launched National Education Week, which is being held next week in protest against cuts in education spending.

Mr William Boden, the council's chairman, criticized Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science. He said that 30,000 teachers were unemployed, 15,000 of them

Teacher jailed after drug finds in flats

From Our Correspondent

Edinburgh

Kenneth MacKenzie, aged 29, a science teacher, said to be the central figure in a £40,000 drug find, was jailed at the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday for two years.

Mr MacKenzie, who was also a scout leader, was said to have misguided interest in drugs.

The find was made in raids on three flats in Edinburgh and was said to have contained the largest amount of cannabis resin found in Scotland.

Ian McCracken, aged 26, a former London taxi driver, was jailed for two years, and Nicol Rea, aged 22, a bar manager, for four months. Kenneth Irwin, aged 22, a van driver, was fined £300 and Ernest Rea, aged 23, a cousin of Mr Rea, was admonished.

Mr Brian Gill, for the prosecution, said that in a kitchen at Mr MacKenzie's flat in Forrester Park Avenue the police found supplies of cannabis resin, cannabis, scales, weights, plastic bags, and cannabis oil. "There was no question but that MacKenzie was dealing in cannabis and packaging and dispatching it for distribution", he said.

Mr Fricker said a packet of 51 notes was found in Mr Walsh's home, their sequence numbers followed those of notes issued to bank customers on the day of the murder. Over that weekend Mr Walsh had bought a £380 secondhand car for his wife with cash, and goods, including a £115 guitar, earrings and a cuckoo clock, in spite of being pressed shortly beforehand for the settlement of heavy debts and rent arrears.

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Mr William Boden, the council's chairman, criticized Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science. He said that 30,000 teachers were unemployed, 15,000 of them

newly qualified, compared with 19,000 out of work at this time last year.

Nursery education, the admission of rising fees to schools, in-service training for teachers, provision for youth and adult education had all suffered throughout the country, regardless of the political complexion of local authorities.

"Adult education is declining to a state where it will soon cease to exist in some countries if the decline continues", he said.

The Government's proposal to help the young unemployed would affect only a third of young people.

"It is difficult to see that other than the great debate on education, Mrs Williams has done much to impinge on the educational service in the past 12 months", he said.

He added that a delegation from the council would visit Mrs Williams next week in the hope of strengthening her hand to save the education service before it was too late.

National Education Week, which will include meetings and school displays organized by the council's branches, is timed to coincide with local authority discussions about next year's budgets and the rate-support grant negotiations.

"It was not that we were in fear of being hit. The range was used it some three miles away, and they do say these modern bombers are very accurate. It was the noise we were most afraid of. The planes are static and often very quiet. They are not improved

ment to the committee, and to establish worker control rather than worker participation. Our basic concept of the function of management is that we've got it: "We've got it out of this great cumulative procedure. The trade unions can leapfrog the whole management hierarchy and get direct access to the top. We can't". Many middle managers are unhappy that they are now being forced to join unions and to fight for their pay in a way they regard as wholly alien.

The frustrations of middle management are well-illustrated by what is going on in the coal industry at present. The British Association of Colliery Managers claims that the National Union of Mineworkers is attempting to dominate the new colliery policy committee proposed by the coal board. The association's general secretary, Mr George Tyler, says: "The union wants to transfer decision-making from management to the committee, and to establish worker control rather than worker participation. Our basic concept of the function of management is that we've got it: "We've got it out of this great cumulative procedure. The trade unions can leapfrog the whole management hierarchy and get direct access to the top. We can't". Many middle managers are unhappy that they are now being forced to join unions and to fight for their pay in a way they regard as wholly alien.

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WEST EUROPE

Amnesty International reacts to its Nobel Award with renewed plea for prisoners of conscience

By David Watts

Amnesty International reacted to its award of the Nobel Peace Prize for 1977 with a characteristic appeal to all governments to release prisoners of conscience and to abolish torture and the death penalty.

Mr Martin Ennals, the London-based organization's secretary-general, said he was pleased that the prize committee had recognized the link between human rights and peace, which Amnesty International had been trying to promote since its inception in 1961.

The award of the Peace Prize is particularly appropriate since it is normally presented on December 10, International Human Rights Day, when the British section of Amnesty International will conclude its Prisoner of Conscience Year campaign. The following day the United Nations inaugurates a year of education in basic human rights.

Since the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights more than 30 years ago, Mr Ennals told a press conference, progress towards the establishment of international machinery for the safeguarding of human rights has been patchy, slow. In the past few years there had been a growing recognition that human rights were an international responsibility.

Mr Ennals hoped that the award of the prize would result in increased support for Amnesty's work from individuals and organizations and a

recognition that Amnesty's work was impartial and not committed to any political viewpoint, only to the right of all people to hold political opinions.

This is the second time that Amnesty's work has been recognized by the Nobel Committee. In 1974 Mr Sean McBride, then Amnesty's president, received the Peace Prize, partly for his work with the organization.

It has about 100,000 members in some 70 countries and their subscriptions provide a large part of Amnesty's income. The budget for the present year is £356,000 and that for the financial year beginning next May, £1,200,000.

Between 1969 and the end of last year Amnesty adopted 13,080 new political prisoners and obtained the release of 8,210, partly through the efforts of Amnesty members who write seeking the release of individuals or provide financial and other support for prisoners and their families.

Moscow: Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet physicist who won the 1975 Peace Prize but was refused official permission to collect it personally, today welcomed the news that the 1977 prize had been awarded to Amnesty International.

"Amnesty International has strong international authority because its goal of achieving the observation of human rights worldwide without concern for political or social systems. It should be a holiday for the

Soviet chapter of Amnesty International," he said. —UPI

Stewart Tendler writes: The Northern Ireland Peace Movement, which has won the 1976 Peace Prize, withheld last year, began 14 months ago in Finaghy Road North, West Belfast, with the deaths of three children. They were killed by the runaway car of Provisional IRA terrorists.

The deaths inspired Miss Mairead Corrigan, their aunt, and Mrs Betty Williams, a Belfast housewife, to add their voices to the many attempts through the past eight years to call a halt to the violence.

Their actions struck a chord and within days of the children's deaths thousands of people from both sides of the communal divide had marched together in West Belfast.

In time their actions formed the Peace People and then the Peace Movement.

Mrs Williams said yesterday: "We have not yet brought peace to Northern Ireland. We have created a climate for peace to become respectable."

"If we have managed to save one life in Ulster I am extremely happy. I know the people of Northern Ireland deserve all the honours," she said, after hearing of the award at the Woman of the Year lunch in London.

Miss Corrigan said in Belfast: "I accept the prize on behalf of everyone throughout the world who works and longs for peace."

Leading article, page 15

'Thousands' of E German detainees

By Our Foreign Staff

Even though East Germany denies that there is political imprisonment, the country has several thousand political detainees, according to an Amnesty International report published yesterday.

A high proportion of these prisoners are serving sentences of from one to three years for trying to leave the country without permission. However, during 1976, about 1,300 men and women were expelled to West Germany against the delivery of scarce goods to East Germany.

No dissent from the official line, whether political, religious or cultural is tolerated.

Applications for permission to emigrate are unofficially reported to have reached between 100,000 and 200,000 by 1976. Most of these are turned down.

Tension in Spanish armed forces

From Patricia Clough

Madrid, Oct 10

Señor Suárez, the Prime Minister, held an unexpected meeting here today with members of his Cabinet concerned with military, political and security affairs after right-wing extremists tried to turn the funeral of an assassinated Government official into a political rally.

They were believed to have discussed the steps the Government should take in the face of continuing terrorist attacks and growing discontent among some members of the armed forces and police.

Outside the church in the Basque town of Guernica where the funeral was held of the murdered official and his police escort, right-wing activists tried to overturn the car of Señor Eduardo Navarro, the Deputy Secretary of the Interior, but were dispersed

'Vital' message sent to Schleyer kidnappers

From Patricia Clough

Bonn, Oct 10

The West German Government today sent what it described as a vital message to the kidnappers of Dr Hanns-Martin Schleyer, the president of the industry federation. It gave no clue to the contents of the message, which was passed to Dr Denis Payot, the Geneva lawyer, who is acting as a go-between.

The Government is under strong pressure from several quarters to make the decision which it has so far managed to avoid in the five weeks since Dr Schleyer was captured: to give in to the kidnappers' demands and release 11 jailed terrorists in exchange for his life.

A handwritten letter from Dr Schleyer in which he pressed the Government urgently to come to a decision was sent by his captors to foreign newspapers last week. He said he

EEC critics fail to ruffle Britain

By Roger Berthoud

Yesterday's newspaper reports that Mr Callaghan's recent statement on policy towards the EEC had been strongly criticized at a private meeting of the Nine's foreign ministers in Belgium caused irritation but no great dismay in Whitehall.

Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, believes strongly that when such meetings are intended to be informal and confidential they should indeed be so. Having flown direct to Moscow from Belgium, he was understood to have been surprised by the reports. He told the meeting was a good one, with no feeling of acrimony.

On a specific point said to have been made by Herr Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, that the entry of Greece, Spain and Portugal should not be welcomed, the EEC's cohesion—he felt there had perhaps been a misinterpretation of a passage in Mr Callaghan's formulation (in a pre-party conference letter to Mr Ron Hayward, the Labour Party's general secretary).

Ruling imminent on extraditing German lawyer

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Oct 10

The Paris Court of Appeal will decide on Wednesday whether to free provisionally Herr Klaus Croissant, the Baader-Meinhof defence lawyer, who has been in a French prison since September 30 awaiting an extradition hearing that is now fixed for October 24.

Two hundred personalities have signed a petition demanding his immediate freedom, saying that the West German authorities were prosecuting Herr Croissant because he had the courage to defend political prisoners who were thought to be indefensible.

"We did not do well in the

OVERSEAS

Italian floods receding after causing 15 deaths

From Our Correspondent

Rome, Oct 10

Floods which left at least 15 people dead and hundreds homeless, and caused about £20m damage in Northern Italy, were receding today. But continual rain was hindering relief work in some areas.

The River Po, was reported to be rising still, but fears that it would burst its banks and flood the rich farmlands of the north-east had abated.

Around the port of Genoa and in the Alpine Asta Valley, many villages remained isolated by landslips which blocked roads since the floods began five days ago.

In Campiglione, one of the worst-hit areas near Genoa, there was a shortage of drinking water.

Employees of flood-ravaged factories were told today to stay away from work for several weeks as repairs got under way and local authorities set about mending broken water mains and sewers.

In Venice flood waters invaded St. Mark's Square and other low-lying areas today in the first highwater of the season.

Officials said the Venice Lagoon was 35in above normal level, causing water to lap into the square and forcing the city's taxi boats to change their normal routes because they could not pass under some of the city's low bridges. —Agence France Presse, Reuter and UPI.

Dr Owen with President Brezhnev (centre) and Mr Gromyko after yesterday's signing ceremony in Moscow.

Soviet police suppress activity by Jewish dissidents in Moscow

Moscow, Oct 10.—The Soviet authorities today put several Jewish activists in Moscow under house arrest again after letting them leave their homes over the weekend. Jewish sources said.

About a dozen activists were confined to their flats throughout last week and prevented from carrying out a planned protest against emigration restrictions during a session of the Supreme Soviet.

Today they again planned to protest to the Supreme Soviet, this time about the house arrests, but found that police guards were posted once more outside their apartments, the sources said. "We know there are at least seven who cannot leave their homes," they added.

The action against the Jews last week prompted a complaint to the Belgrade security conference by Dr Andrei Sakharov, the human rights campaigner, and two other leading dissidents. They said in a telegram that the house arrests were a clear violation of elementary freedoms.

Dissident sources said in Moscow today that Mr Alexander Podrabinek, a dissident member of a group monitoring official abuses of psychiatric treatment, was arrested on the street today and taken away for questioning in an unmarked car.

Irvin Kaplan, a woman walking with him, tried to get into the car with Mr Podrabinek, but she was pushed back.

The detentions coincide with a month-long period of important state occasions in the Soviet Union, including the adoption of the new constitution and the sixtieth anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution on November 7. Officials are apparently eager to avoid demonstrations and other disturbances.

One of the activists, Mr Alexander Tsirkin, said visitors to the Jewish dissidents were also being stopped by the police.

"They won't say anything concrete, or even say how long this is going to last," Mr Tsirkin said. —Reuter, UPI and AP.

Victoria power strike worsens

Melbourne, Oct 10.—A crippling power strike in Victoria worsened today when a third round of talks in arbitration commission trials, which last week declared an emergency over the strike by thousands of industrial workers, has also imposed further restrictions on domestic users after the breakdown vital machinery.

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Warning on Cambodia massacres

From Our Correspondent

Geneva, Oct 10

Mr Egon Nansen, the Norwegian Government representative on the Nansen Medal award committee, said here today that the world will have to face "one of the most horrifying human massacres of post-war history".

The purpose would be to jam all the traffic in the area instantly so that it would be virtually impossible for the terrorists to get away.

One criticism likely to be raised is that the ensuing chaos would also hold up ambulances, fire engines and police cars. The police say that it would take many hours for them to check all the vehicles which would be held up in such a situation.

Information "from a vast number of refugees, put together bit by bit", indicated that Cambodia intended to exterminate or drive out more than half of its population, he stated.

Mr Nansen, the grandson of the Arctic explorer, said afterwards that he had felt it a "human obligation to speak out because a massacre of that magnitude in our time would be intolerable in the light of what happened to the Jews of Europe in the Second World War".

He pointed out that the Cambodian regime had criticized neighbouring countries for being too modern in implementing revolutionary ideas.

In referring to the boat people, refugees leaving Vietnam in

OVERSEAS

Russia attempts to turn Belgrade talks into disarmament meeting

From Richard Davy and Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade, Oct 10

The Russians seem to have decided to try to turn the 35-nation conference here into a disarmament conference, although the Helsinki Agreement which is under review contained only brief references to disarmament.

When the conference went into closed session today after a week of public speeches, Mr Yuli Vorontsov, the head of the Soviet delegation, talked for about 45 minutes on almost nothing but disarmament. Other delegates talked about human rights.

One Western delegate commented that it was like two streams going in different directions.

Mr Vorontsov could not avoid human rights altogether: so he asked how it was possible to speak about the rights of man while leaving men exposed to the effects of modern weapons. "The primordial right, the right to live," he said, and went on to repeat well-known Soviet proposals such as refraining from being the first to use nuclear weapons and from expanding military pacts.

He also reproached the West for not taking up Soviet proposals at the Vienna talks on troop reductions in Europe. He spoke at length of the need for disarmament and for good bilateral relations.

The reaction of Western delegates was that this was not the proper forum for disarmament talks, although Mr Richard Parsons, the head of the British delegation, said that the talks here might improve the atmosphere for arms negotiations.

Others proposed improvements on measures in the Helsinki Agreement intended to promote military confidence, such as normalization of manoeuvres.

The French rejected the Soviet proposals on nuclear weapons, and so did the Dutch.

Bhutto terror gangs 'kept him in power'

Islamabad, Oct 10.—Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, was accused in the Supreme Court today of running the Pakistan Government by "institutionalized corruption and terror".

Mr A. K. Brohi, representing the state, said in a statement to the court that Mr Bhutto, deposed by a military coup on July 5, ruthlessly eliminated all opposition by terror squads. He treated Pakistan as his vast private estate and himself as a meleve lord.

Replying to arguments contained in a writ filed by Begum Bhutto that her husband's detention by the Army was illegal, Mr Brohi sought to establish that the imposition of martial law was justified under the doctrine of necessity.

He alleged that Mr Bhutto converted to his own use funds provided by the Ruler of Abu Dhabi for religious and educational purposes.

"For him," Mr Brohi said, "the distinction between private and public property had ceased to exist."

A former director of the paramilitary federal security forces, Mr Major Mohammad Abbasi, was instrumental in creating a "demolition squad" to break up opposition rallies.

Other squads were also formed, named as "bomb blasters", "sharp shooters" and "knife runners".—Reuter.

Law Report October 10 1977

Survey discloses insensitivity to French Canadian grievances

By Roy Lewis

Could Canada really break up in the next three or four years? Disputer wavers at foreboding throughout Canada after a year of Parti Québécois (PQ) government in Quebec.

But facts, as opposed to assertions, have been few. Indeed, the only fact has been that the separatists won power overwhelmingly last November on a mandate that was specifically did not include secession.

Public opinion pollsters have been trying to fill the gaps in our knowledge about feeling in Quebec and Canada generally. At the end of September a most comprehensive survey, going into the greatest detail of opinion on separation and its alternatives in all provinces was published by the Southam Newspapers group. It had been conducted by Goldfarb Consultants who interviewed nearly 2,000 persons, including 500 in Quebec.

The salient findings were that in Quebec a big majority still opposes separation, even among French speakers (68 to 28 per cent). Even more surprisingly, a majority (56 to 43 per cent) of French-speaking Quebecers disapproved of the language only which makes French the only official language, compels all children except those with parents educated in English, to attend French schools, and requires the working language of even of private business to become French.

It so happens that an almost simultaneous poll taken by the Centre de Recherche sur l'Opinion Publique (CROP) in Quebec confirmed the Goldfarb findings. But when CROP asked whether the Quebec Government should have a mandate to negotiate for a "sovereignty-association" relationship between Quebec and Canada, United States, the vote was 50 per cent yes to 34 per cent no.

Splitting the "don't knows" proportionately, CROP concluded that Mr René Lévesque, the Quebec Premier, could win a referendum immediately for that more limited mandate by 61 per cent.

Mr Lévesque found this

finding "extraordinarily encouraging". The basis of the survey was different: Goldfarb's was based on individual interviews lasting 1½ hours; CROP's interviews were by telephone only.

The broad picture offered by the detailed Goldfarb survey is of a Canada opposed to the separation of Quebec, and prepared to make constitutional changes to prevent it, particularly in reducing federal powers and extending French language facilities.

But Goldfarb found an ominous ignorance and insensitivity in English Canada to the feelings and deep-seated grievances of French Canada. The poll also showed that the demand in French Canada for full independence was strongest in the young, educated and bilingual part of the population.

A brief summary of the Goldfarb findings will probably be issued later in book form, is reproduced here with permission of Southam Newspapers. The balance in the percentages is represented by "don't knows" and those with no opinion. The Quebec figures are for French and English speakers combined. About 15 per cent of the Quebec population is English.

Voting now, would you favour or oppose separation?

All All
Canada Quebec
Favour 14 25
Oppose 84 71

Mr Lévesque found this

Should Quebec alone decide, or should all provinces decide?

Quebec 36 58
All 63 31

Do you support the French language Bill?

Support 16 39
Oppose 81 61

Would Canada be better off without Quebec?

Better off 13 8
Worse off 63 65

Would Quebec be better off outside Canada?

Better off 9 24
Worse off 77 58

Should Quebec be allowed to separate if it so votes?

Be allowed 59 54
Be prevented 38 42

Would you support military action to prevent/permit separation?

Support forces 33 36
Oppose forces 55 63

Is anti-Quebec feeling growing in English Canada?

All All
Canada Quebec
Favour 14 25
Oppose 84 71

Mr Lévesque found this

61 killed in express train crash

Delhi, Oct 10.—A passenger train struck a stationary goods train in northern India early today, killing at least 61 people, badly injuring 31 and inflicting minor injuries on another 70, railway officials on another 70, railway officials

Most of the passengers were asleep when the express crashed into the rear of the goods train at Naini station near Allahabad. No one in the first passenger coach behind the engine appeared to have survived, according to a news agency report from the scene.

The driver of the passenger train, which was heading for Delhi 400 miles away, was among the dead. Army and railway personnel and civilians helped in rescue operations.

"Railway officials said the accident was one of the worst in the history of Indian railways."—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Indian navy set for 'greater role in Ocean'

Delhi, Oct 10

India's Navy must start equipping itself to meet "greater responsibilities" in the Indian Ocean, Mr Jagdish Ram, the Defence Minister, declared here today.

Mr Ram, who was addressing a conference of senior naval officers, announced that the Indian Navy was likely to acquire vertical take-off jet aircraft, possibly the British Harrier, for its aircraft carrier.

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They are a plague because they start with a basis of fact, like ordinary television documentaries, and then weave fiction into the narrative without disclosing to innocent viewers which is which. They are immensely successful and

therefore profitable and we can expect lots more before the film changes.

In the good old days, people believed things they read. This is sweet faith in the inviolable veracity of books and newspapers survives here and there, but has been more generally superseded by the belief, more or less admitted, that the television camera never lies.

If a television network offers the theory that President Kennedy was murdered by the CIA in the instigation of Lyndon Johnson, then a great many people will have a nagging feeling that something of the sort probably did happen.

If another network puts out

every evening for a week a serial called *Washington Behind Closed Doors*, based on the Watergate affair, then huge numbers of people will believe that this is what really happened.

True, in the latter "documentaries", all the names are changed, and the producers can

therefore claim that it is all make-believe. But so much of the series was true, based on

public statements, Watergate tapes or remembered events, that the rest of it is swallowed in the same easy credulity.

Newspapers often behave

equally irresponsibly. Was not

one respectable Sunday paper

recently converted to astrology?

Television, however, carries

much more conviction. You can

actually see it, so it must be

true.

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SPORT

Football



Bruce Rioch (left) who hopes to have recovered in time to play for Scotland against Wales, and Kevin Keegan, who misses England's match against Luxembourg after reporting ill with influenza.



Forward thinking by Greenwood

From Norman Fox
Football Correspondent
Luxembourg, Oct 10

England's plan to play Luxembourg in a World Cup qualifying match here on Wednesday will contain three changes from the side who beat the underdogs 6-0 last month with Switzerland at Wembley last month. Ron Greenwood, the manager, accepts the need to score a lot of goals by saying that although his chosen side will have strange looking 3-4-3 back formation, he hoped to see the forward line become a five-man attack at the game pro-

gramme. Two players are omitted from Mr Greenwood's original selection last time, Keegan, who is unwell, and may not even appear as a substitute, and Neil Warnock, who was right back. Charlton, who was unable to be included in the present party of 22 because of injury, is replaced by Mariner, but speculation that the whole Ipswich forward line of Woods, Mariner and Whyman might be employed has been summarily dismissed.

Masson put on captaincy alert

Bruce Rioch, the Scotland captain, has not ruled himself out of the World Cup qualifying clash with Wales at Anfield tomorrow. The Everton midfielder was who led the Scots to a 3-1 victory over Czechoslovakia at Hampden Park last month, but who has missed his club's last two matches with a pulled calf muscle, reported to Scotland's headquarters yesterday on the Wirral. He will undergo a test today to decide whether he can play.

Although Rioch did some light training yesterday, it seems that Alastair MacLeod, the Scotland manager, has proposed that his absence because Don Masson has been told to stand by to take over the captaincy. Danny McGrain, the Celtic full back, underwent a test on an injured ankle and is likely to be fit. The same applies to Tom Fotheringham, the right back, who had an ankle in the game against Dundee United on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Wales have been troubled by injuries to Leighton James, Malcolm Page and Ian Evans. Michael Smith, their manager, spent the day preparing for the most important game in Wales's history, supervising train-

ing at both Wrexham and Anfield, where the match will be played before their biggest crowd.

Mr Smith's replacement, Lee Trundle, of Ipswich Town, and Alan Curtis, captain of Southampton, almost certain to gain places in the team after being called up at the weekend from the six reserves that Wales are allowed by FIFA. Everyone in the world is confident. "Alan Smith is a good captain," says Ward at some time during the game could be a crucial move.

There is no doubt that Whickus deserves his place. He is one of

Manchester United, having recovered from a foot injury.

Rome, Oct 10.—Italy's manager, Enzo Bearzot today called up the 21-year-old defender, Pierluigi Tassan, to his 30-man team for Finland's World Cup match against Turin's Juventus and Torino.

Bearzot, pleased with Italy's performance in Berlin despite the fact that he would probably field the same team, started that game and which he had already 3-0 in Helsinki last June in Turin.

The players selected were: Goalkeepers: D. Zoff (Juventus) and L. Castrovilli (Torino). Backs: G. Facchetti (Internazionale Milan), A. Cuccureddu (Juventus) and Corvo of Stoccarda. Kearns has a broken bone in his foot and Conroy has badly bruised. The Italian goalkeeper, Paganini, who came on as substitute against Spain last April, will replace Kearns for the first full international.

O'Leary, the Arsenal centre half, has a groin injury and underwent only light training yesterday. Mr Giles will announce his team after practice today.

Giles expects Heighway to be fit

Johnny Giles, the Republic of Ireland manager, expects Steven Heighway, of Liverpool, to be fit to face Bulgaria in the World Cup game in Dublin tomorrow.

Giles has delayed selection until Heighway trains with his party.

Mr Giles said: "He was in touch with Conroy by phone and said he feels a little stiff but that it all."

Heighway played for Liverpool reserves against Leeds on Saturday, scoring his first team goal because of a pelvic fracture.

Definitely out of the team will be the Walsall goalkeeper, Kearns, and Conroy of Stoccarda. Kearns has a broken bone in his foot and Conroy has badly bruised. The Italian goalkeeper, Paganini, who came on as substitute against Spain last April, will replace Kearns for the first full international.

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Tennis

Beven's match to decide team prize today

Rohan Beven, the 20-year-old Sussex left-hander, who has remained unbeaten in the first two weeks of the Pernod Indoor Tennis circuit, has only to walk on court for his first-round match at Bournemouth on Friday with Cocco Massimo, of Switzerland, to ensure that Britain retain the men's trophy in the eight-nation under-21 team competition.

Beven's 19-year-old team colleague, Andrew Jarrett, who began the series by losing in the first round at Edinburgh last week, will be the man who will Britain in an almost unassailable position.

Jarrett beat Brett Hibbert, of New Zealand, 6-1, 6-2, in yesterday's first-round of the last leg to put Britain top of the table.

Technically, then, need Beven, of New Zealand, to have an unbeatable lead—and a £500 team prize to share—but already they are celebrating. The immediate reward came from British team manager Paul Hutchins, who nominated them to tour South Africa next month.

"They have earned the chance," said Hutchins. "They have played well lately. This is a sure sign our training scheme is beginning to click."

The British women's team of Ian (Avon) and Lynne Hobbs (Cheshire) set, however, for a rough finish if they are to keep their trophy, won last year by Linda Mottram and Belinda Thompson.

After some indifferent form recently, they began the last week of the competition in fourth place with 60 points. Ian Hobbs beat Hobbs and the position with a couple of wins worth two points each.

Miss Durie beat Brenda Perry, of New Zealand, 6-1, 6-1 with an emphatic display. Miss Hobbs, however, was made to fight for her victory against Inga Korten, the German.

Mexico has entered Ernesto Flores, 1976 international for the winter and last year's individual champion, and Enrique Diaz, who came up in the 1975 Mexican open.

Other nominations received so far are:

AUSTRIA: O. Gartemayer, R. Lederer.

CANADA: G. Kaudson, D. Baer.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: J. Dvorsky, J. Kral.

FRANCE: P. Gervet, R. Heslot.

GREECE: R. Anastasiou, B. Karayannidis.

HONGKONG: Lai Wan Che, P. Tang.

INDONESIA: R. Suryana, R. Olai.

INDONESIA: A. Nurul, A. Sumarmo.

JAPAN: K. Shimada, Y. Miyamoto.

LISBON: JAMAHIRIYAH: Muhamad Salim, Mohamed Salim Zain.

PEOPLES' DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC: R. H. Hirsch, J. Korten.

WOMEN'S OPEN SINGLES: First round: G. Stauri (Avon) beat G. Brundage, 6-3, 6-1; Ian Hobbs beat Linda Mottram, 6-3, 6-1; Belinda Thompson beat S. Schonander, 6-3, 6-1.

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SPORT

racing

Stock market trend points to brisk business at Newmarket sale

Michael Phillips
acting Correspondent

The Houghton Sale, which is the most important sale of year, was held at Newmarket yesterday afternoon. All the early indications point to there being a lot money about and business being brisk. The sale at Newmarket took place a fortnight ago as geared rather more to the domestic market. This one appeals to a much wider audience.

It is interesting to note that the catalogue is a whole cannot be served as an accurate representation of the current health of the British bloodstock industry because more than 90 per cent of lots entered are from studs in Ireland. The market for the individual with a fashionsale degree was extremely strong in Ireland last month and it is expected that this pattern will continue.

It is a fact that the recent stock market invariably has had a bearing on Newmarket's fortunes.

The sale, which is held on the first Saturday in October, is the first to be held in the new year.

It is a fact that the colt

is the most popular of all

the studs in Ireland.

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Putting the record straight on the Irish attitude

Mr Bernard Levin's article (September 23) calls for a reply not because of the intemperate terms in which he refers to myself but because the question of Northern Ireland is far too serious to be treated in such a grotesquely distorted manner.

This issue is literally a matter of life and death for people in Northern Ireland itself and is of major importance to relations between Britain and Ireland. Readers of *The Times* would expect a responsible newspaper to present an informed, balanced treatment of such a serious subject.

While Mr Levin's efforts display considerable literary dexterity and may even possess a certain entertainment value they are regrettably full of the prejudice, bias and obscurantist attitudes which he wishes to attribute to myself.

Let me begin by establishing why I made the remarks which drew Mr Levin's ire, namely "I hope nobody on the British side will be foolish enough to think that Dr O'Brien's remarks carry any serious weight or reflect Government thinking."

Contrary to what Mr Levin appears to think, my primary concern in that remark was not with the validity or otherwise of Dr O'Brien's hypothesis, but with its status.

Because of the prominent role which Dr O'Brien had played in recent years, both as a Government minister, and as his party's spokesman on Northern Ireland affairs, many people in Britain might readily assume that his views represented some substantial body of opinion.

The fact that his views were no longer to be taken as an expression of his party's position was made clear by his subsequent resignation from the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Secondly, and of much greater importance, was the need to make clear that his views could not be taken to represent Irish Government attitudes or policy on the question of unity. It was necessary to do this because Dr O'Brien in his Oxford speech had also made statements about the Irish Government's approach to the unity issue which were not based on any evidence, and which did not follow from any of his earlier remarks on public attitudes.

To complete the picture I may add that there is no evidence of any support for Dr O'Brien's Oxford position in the subsequent comments of the main Opposition party.

For having thus established (correctly) the status of Dr O'Brien's remarks I am to be branded a "sheepish" while the Irish nation as a whole is to be condemned to extinction for its folly in rejecting Dr O'Brien's views.

This suggested to me that Mr Levin has some rather woolly political attitudes of his own: he masquerades as a liberal democrat yet simultaneously expresses a fascist elitist attitude than those who do not share his views (whether minorities or majorities—though in this case a whole nation) deserve extinction. How curious!

I note this anomaly because it is relevant to the present issue, namely, the manner in which Dr O'Brien's remarks

ought to be treated. Once these remarks are divested of political support, then any of the "considerable importance" or "formal authority" which Mr Levin claims for them, must arise from their academic merits.

Here, alas, Dr O'Brien's hypothesis (nor, facts, Mr Levin) does not appear to stand up well to close examination.

What he did was to take material from three different surveys, conducted at three different times (spanning over a five-year span) for three different purposes, and knit these together to produce his claims.

Any experienced social scientist would know that the product of such a process could not be described as "facts"—yet curiously this is a word used by both Dr O'Brien and Mr Levin—though whether to display their bias or their ignorance I leave to others to decide.

Unlike Mr Levin, who found it possible to deliver such a comprehensive judgment of my hypothesis to go with sealed lips; Mr Jenkins to Brussels, Mr Walden to television. Some, seeing no great need for public apostasy after a lifetime in the faith, have made their protest quietly and gone; one such who comes to mind is Mr William Pickles, who broke with the party over its parliamentary fiddling in 1976. Some, like Mr Dick Taverne, have tried to tread the independent road, but found that it petered out. Some, like Mr Christopher Mayhew, have joined the Liberals just when they seemed to be doing well, only to find that they had chosen the precise moment at which Liberal fortunes began to fade. Some, like Lord Chalfont, have found the partying no great strain, saying much the same things after it as they had

done before.

The interests of Dr O'Brien's views would be that no political party or group should challenge any position held by a majority. In contrast, I believe that political parties and groups have the right to advocate legitimate policies and seek to win public support for them. I find it superfluous that it should be an alleged liberal who supports an undemocratic attitude. Could this be because their views have received such little public support?

Mr Levin might also ponder the interesting fact that most democratic governments do not enjoy majority support, while countries characterized by large pro-government votes rarely strike us as being agreeable places in which to live.

If we are to make progress in resolving the difficult, complex and highly emotive question of Northern Ireland it is necessary for those in authority in both Westminster and Dublin to bring the qualities of reason and understanding to bear on their discussions and analysis. There are more than enough people in all of our communities who rely on emotive language and who leap to conclusions which do not stem from any facts.

Mr Levin's article regrettably belongs to this latter category. The problem then, Mr Levin, is not that there are people like myself in government in Dublin but that there are people like you who should be regarded as important sources for conveying information and opinion to the British public. When the helicopter comes for Dr O'Brien and subsequently needed to learn about foreign affairs.

Today, with Mr Carter and Mr Mondale, both trilateralists, in the White House, there are in addition 13 members of the commission in key positions inside the administration. They include the Secretaries of State, Defence and Treasury and the National Security Adviser.

Since membership of the commission was the one common factor linking so many of Mr Carter's choices it was naturally enough much written about at the time. Ironically, the report itself, Task forces of commissioners are deplored as unnecessary. Least that be thought of the trilateral method, devised principally by Dr Brzezinski.

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AN AUSTERE OPTIMIST

Almost as soon as Mr Jimmy Carter was identified as a person likely to become President of the United States, Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski was identified as "Carter's Kissinger"; and sure enough when Mr Carter took office he appointed Mr Brzezinski to the post which Dr Henry Kissinger had held for nearly five years before becoming Secretary of State, the post of National Security Adviser. Like Dr Kissinger, Mr Brzezinski before entering government was well known as an academic analyst of world affairs, and had his views on how American foreign policy should be conducted on record in books and other publications. Both men were assumed to provide a philosophy on which presidential action in foreign affairs could be based, but were not content to observe the results from the safety of an ivory tower: they were prepared, even eager, to take a hand in the day-to-day business of deducing particular actions from general principles.

The two men had, moreover, been acquainted for a quarter of a century, and professed respect and friendship for each other. But at the same time it was clear that their approaches to the world were profoundly different. Indeed that fact in itself must have been one of the things that most strongly attracted Mr Carter to Mr Brzezinski. Dr Kissinger's foreign policy, for long the brightest jewel in Mr Nixon's crown, had by the end of 1975 become one of the liabilities of the Ford Administration. It was increasingly seen by the American public as cynical, amoral, and tending to give bargains with America's enemies priority over commit-

ments to her allies. If Mr Carter was to convince Americans with his proposal of a more honest and more uplifting leadership, he had to offer a new approach to foreign as well as domestic policies.

Mr Brzezinski therefore had strong political reasons to emphasize the difference between his approach and Dr Kissinger's; and once he was National Security Adviser it became important to emphasize their differences of temperament as well. Dr Kissinger in that post had not only exercised a decisive influence on most areas of foreign policy but had also gradually squeezed the Secretary of State out of the public eye and finally displaced him altogether. He had kept the reins of diplomacy ever more tightly in his own hands, ignoring the conventional procedures of the State Department and offending many of its officials. Clearly if harmony was to prevail in the new administration, it was vital for Mr Brzezinski to allay any suspicion that he would act in like manner.

It appears that so far he has succeeded, and that State Department and National Security Council are working fairly smoothly together. Mr Brzezinski's manner, at once straightforward and discreet, is clearly an important ingredient of the formula—contrasting as it does with that of Dr Kissinger, who too often contrived to be simultaneously secretive and ostentatious.

Something of this manner comes over in the long interview with Mr Brzezinski published in *The Times* and the *Washington Post*. There is no trace of Dr Kissinger's rather grandiose, quasi-literary style and slightly

ponderous *bonhomie*. Instead we see an awkward, at times prickly personality, but patently sincere. Above all—and here style merges into content—we see Dr Kissinger's cheerful pessimism replaced by an austere and earnest optimism. Mr Brzezinski believes, he says, "in change being a process, pointing not towards an ultimate state of well being, but perhaps a process which accomplishes incremental improvements". In other words, things can go on getting gradually better, at least in the overall average, and it is worth working to push them in that direction even without believing that an ideal end result will ever be reached. He is not Utopian, yet Utopian ideals are worth having, because, as he quotes from Browning in another context, "a man's reach should exceed his grasp or what's a heaven for".

His underlying belief, that America has to regain confidence in herself and her ideals and to find ways of preserving world leadership which will not be mistaken for domination, is by now well known; and Mr Carter has already had considerable success in putting this belief into action both in America and abroad.

Of course this approach is not exempt from contradictions, and cynics have no difficulty in pointing to cases where it has already revealed its limitations. America is an imperial power. She does have interests as well as ideals, and the former cannot always be sacrificed to the latter. But the latter should not always be sacrificed to the former either, and where possible the two should be reconciled. With Mr Carter in power and Mr Nixon's crown, had by the end of 1975 become one of the liabilities of the Ford Administration. It was increasingly seen by the American public as cynical, amoral, and tending to give bargains with America's enemies priority over commit-

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a port of entry to the United States and as a focal point for internal flights. The federal government has given permission for the Concorde to land there, and has made it clear that, although it concedes certain rights to local airport authorities, it regards the behaviour of the Port Authority in New York as indefensible. Yet in the best democratic tradition, opposition continues to the end.

Legally, the decision of the Supreme Court will turn on the

question whether the Port

Authority has treated the Concorde in an unreasonable and

discriminatory way. Two lower

courts have found that it has, at

the urging, among others, of the

federal government. The trouble,

of course, has been the difficulty

of excluding Concorde without

simultaneously excluding some of

the older aircraft now using

Kennedy airport. The time has

surely now come for the long

wrangle to end and for the Concorde,

which faces enough draw-

backs, to be given a fair trial on

the key Atlantic run to New

York.

Yours faithfully,

GRAHAM CLEVERLEY,

29 London Road,

Southampton.

From the Director General of the

National Farmers' Union

Sir, In August I sent you an article

on the falling productivity of

British industry. You declined to

publish it, but it appeared in *The Daily Telegraph* on August 18.

Since then you have yourself pub-

lished two highly informative

articles on the same subject. You

exposed the problem of productivity

and authority and your articles are

also the subject of widespread dis-

cussion throughout industry.

There is, however, one important

difference between us. You appear

to believe that it is both practicable

and proper for trade union officials

to instruct their members to im-

prove their productivity on their

own interests. I do not believe that

trade union officials can or should

be expected to exercise discipline

over their members any more than

I, as an official of the National

Farmers' Union, can instruct my

members to adhere to NFU policy.

With the obvious exception of the

staff of the unions themselves,

people do not work for trade unions.

They subscribe to them for protec-

tion, for advice and for reasons of

identification with a group or a

craft, but they work for employers

and take their instructions from

managers.

It is my experience that managers

sensitive to the needs and feelings

of their workers are more likely to

improve productivity than those who

are not.

Yours faithfully,

DUNCAN SMITH,

12 Lambolle Road,

Hampstead, NW3.

From Mr Francis W. Hawcroft

Sir, Having returned recently from

a tour of West German museums

and galleries organized through the

kindness and good will of the Inter-

Nations Government Department in

Bonn, I was interested to read Prof-

essor Norbert Lynton's letter

(September 20) concerning the pro-

motion of British art abroad with

the aid of British Council support.

I agree wholeheartedly with Prof-

essor Lynton's views and, in fact,

several of the German gallery direc-

tors, with whom I had discussions

during my visit, expressed their ap-

preciation of the council's work in

this field.

Professor Lynton rightly draws

attention to the fact that "at home

we have a very small public for

modern art" and I certainly became

more fully aware of this as I walked

round the great regional galleries

of Cologne, Düsseldorf, Hanover and

Hamburg, and the National Gallery

in Berlin. I found that the space

allowed for the display of twentieth-

century art in these galleries was

frequently as much as the entire

space occupied by many of our own

city galleries. Moreover, a good

number of our leading contempor-

ary British painters and sculptors

are probably better represented in

these German galleries than in

British public collections outside

London.

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS W. HAWCROFT, Keeper,

The Whitworth Art Gallery,

Whitworth Park, Manchester.

Divine backing

From Mr Peter Read

Sir, Patricia Davies (October 7) is

mistaken. How can the author of

Concord be a lover of Concord?

Yours etc,

PETER J. READ,

41 Seymour Road, SW18.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Costs and benefits of higher productivity

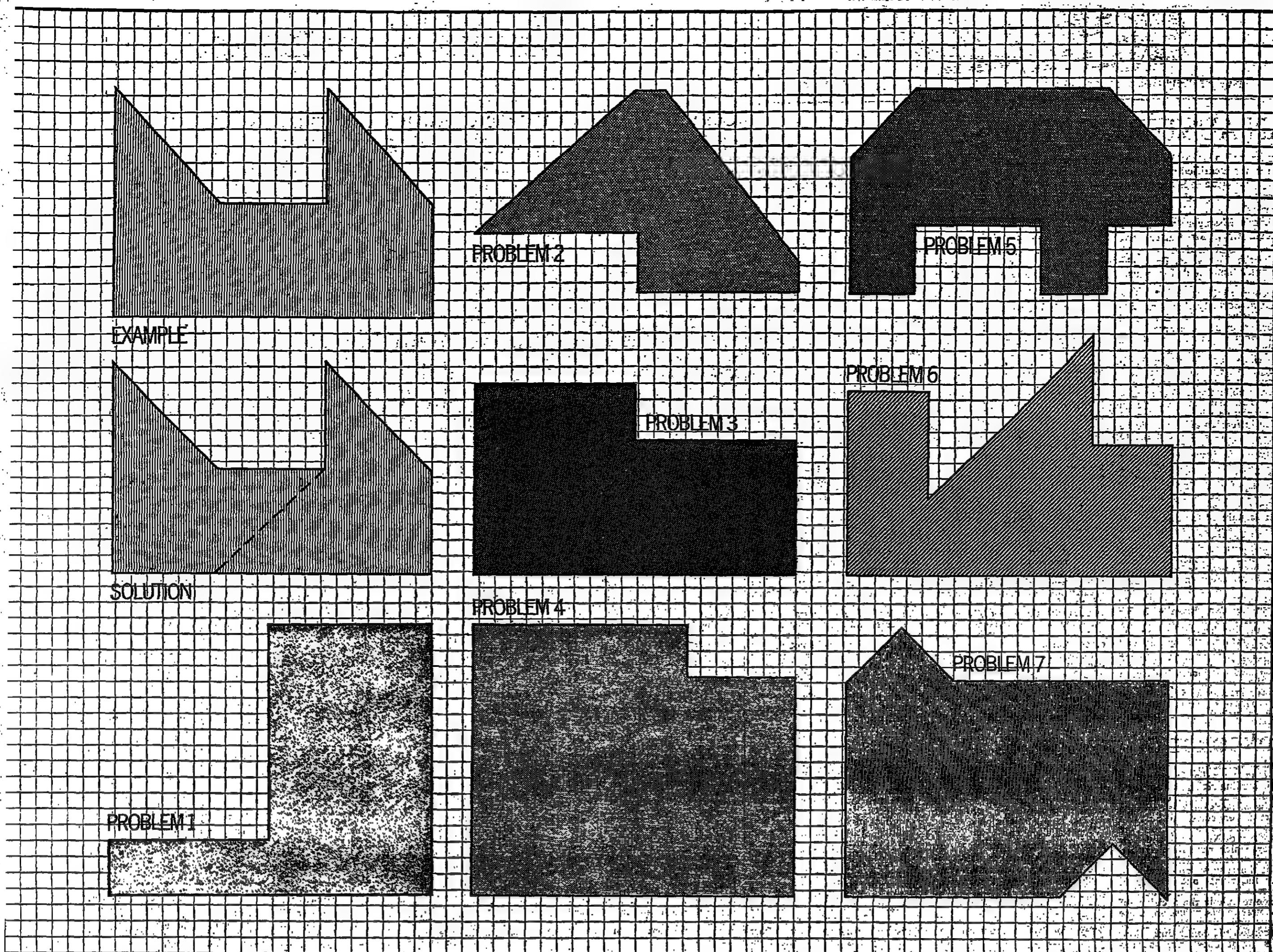
From Mr Graham Cleverley

Sir, The fundamental technical flaw in your argument (September 26, October 5) is that you confuse actual productivity—output per capita—with potential productivity—output per worker. It is output per capita that measures the wealth of the

of employees, managers who import information, explain their purpose, seek ideas and strive to involve and interest their people in the conduct and achievements of the business

and to do improve performance and productivity.

Such managers are to be found in increasing numbers in British industry. They recognize



Edward de Bono's seven easy lessons in lateral thinking.

Each of these shapes can be divided into two equal halves by a line which may have angles. The two halves will be equal in size, shape and area.

To solve these puzzles you'll have to make an inspired guess and then work backwards to check your answer. This is called lateral thinking.

Edward de Bono, the psychologist and author, invented the term 'lateral thinking' but of course people have used it since man began to think. All great inventions are the result, at least in part, of lateral thought.

Bayer employ scores of scientists and technologists who solve problems using the type of thinking you will use to solve the puzzles on this page. It is the spark that together with logic, dedication and thoroughness produces the new ideas and products that help man cope with life.

Bayer have spent over a hundred years looking at old problems in a new way. Today, our synthetic materials are taken for granted. Once it was almost impossible to conceive of materials that could be tougher than steel, that could replace wood or that could be as soft as, but longer lasting than silk.

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One day when the common cold is finally cured, it is sure to be the result of looking at this problem from an entirely new direction.

Bayer think of tomorrow—today.
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every year. By making over 6,000 products. Employing
over 170,000 people world-wide and selling to almost
every country in the world, contributing to their
economic well-being.

If you'd like the solutions to the puzzles, please write to us at the address below. We'll also send you a booklet about Bayer and the work we do, that will be published in the New Year.

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Stock Exchange Prices

More inflation fears

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct 3. Dealings End, Oct 14. § Contango Day, Oct 17. Settlement Day, Oct 25

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Sir Monk

S. ST. PA

THE TIMES

DIE WELT

Europa

Progressively lower interest rates fail to attract industrial borrowers

Cheaper money loses its allure

Bank managers in many of the leading European countries cannot be counted among the happier facets of the population these days. Money has become progressively cheaper this year, yet try as they will, the banks do not appear to have achieved much success in persuading people, particularly industrial companies, to borrow.

The story of cheaper money has not, however, been a universal one. The Scandinavian countries and Austria, for instance, have not shared in this year's general trend. They have had to hold interest rates relatively higher rates in Austria have, in fact, increased—in the face of continuing balance of payments deficits and downward pressure on their currencies.

Down in the Iberian peninsula, too, interest rates have remained firm. Indeed, in Portugal the official discount rate was raised steeply this summer, from 8 to 13 per cent. In the

rest of Europe, rates

have fallen, but not in

the same way.

Interest rates in

France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Austria, Spain and Sweden have moved higher in their wake.

By contrast, interest rates in Britain, France, Holland and Italy have all been falling. In part this has reflected the weakness of the dollar. Equally, however, it has reflected the historically low rates of growth in these countries and the general unwillingness of industry to invest and, therefore, to borrow.

By far the most spectacular example of falling rates has been in Britain where short-

term interest rates have more than halved. But then British rates have had rather further to fall than most after last autumn's increase in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate to a crisis level of 15 per cent.

In Italy, too, interest rates have come down from dizzy heights, though not to the same extent as in Britain. While both countries have benefited from

COMPARISON OF INTEREST RATES

	Bank rate		Overdraft rates	
	January	October	January	October
France	10½	9½	10.60 min	10.30 min
Germany	3½	3½	7.25-8	6.50-7.25
Italy	15	11½	21	18.50
Netherlands	5	3½	7.5-8	9.5
United Kingdom	14	9½	15-20	8-13
Austria	4	5½	8.25-10.45	9.25-11.50
Spain	9	6	9.50	9.50
Sweden	8	8	10.5-12	11-12

Note: In some countries overdraft rates also carry additional quarterly or annual commission rates.

Source: Williams & Glyn's Bank.

real terms. By far the most significant result has been the creation of perfect conditions for a major stock market boom.

This unwillingness of industry to increase its borrowings significantly might seem strange given the fact that British rates remain negative in real terms. On the other hand, long-term loans have remained relatively expensive.

Indeed, there are considerable doubts throughout the industrial world as to whether relatively cheap money will in fact automatically tend to encourage investment as it has tended to do in the past. European industry has become increasingly dubious about the possibility of a return to a sustained high level of growth.

Unfortunately, this is not the whole of the story. In order to effect the transfer of an industrial base, it has been imposed on the management of our overseas portfolio which may well have lost the country more in capital appreciation and in foreign earnings than has been gained in a public relations exercise.

The constraints on the proper management of our private sector overseas investments have been such that these have to some extent been managed not on the criteria of the quality of the underlying investment, but on the basis of whether the security (whether the maximum premium recently been increasing) rather than the underlying value is increasing.

The existence of the 25 per cent surrender rule has, on the Government's own admission, inhibited the efficient management of overseas portfolios, had some adverse effect on the development of the London market in international securities, depleted the overseas portfolio pool, and kept the investment currency premium higher than it might otherwise be.

These, sir, are not my words, they are an almost verbatim transcript from a speech by Lord McCloskey, the Solicitor General for Scotland, in the House of Lords on July 14.

In evidence to the Wilson committee, the Treasury representative acknowledged that the quality of investment was more important than the quan-

John Whitmore

Tory ideas on small businesses

By Colin Firth

Nothing less than a new economic climate is needed to revive small businesses from their worsening plight, with thousands having gone bankrupt and many more struggling. Sir Keith Joseph, Conservative spokesman on industry, says:

According to well-informed Tokyo sources, Mr Dell, the Secretary of State for Trade, has told Mr Tadao Kato, the Japanese Ambassador to Britain, that unless there is immediate action to contain imports Britain will first impose quota restrictions on members to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

They would be told simply: "We are in an emergency situation and had to act quickly." Italy took similar action some years ago when it set a ceiling of only 1,000 cars a year for Japanese imports. Quota restrictions would have a major row on their hands.

Mr Dell Mitchell, MP for Basingstoke and chairman of the Conservative policy group on small businesses, said yesterday the group's recommendations would create more jobs by encouraging more small companies and the expansion of existing ones. That would create a bigger tax flow for the Government from a wider tax base.

The most important need was to change the climate of uncertainty so that small businesses could steadily plan for the future, with incentives and resources to expand, he said.

At present there were so many controls that owners of small businesses were saying: "Get the Government off our backs so we can get on with the job of running our business."

Radical taxation reforms, protection from unfair and subsidized competition by nationalized industries, changes in employment protection law, abolition of unnecessary controls and a general change in attitude towards those who work for themselves are recommended in the pamphlet.

The next Conservative government is urged to cut all rates of income tax, raise tax thresholds, raise the profit limit below which a lower rate of Corporation Tax is charged, introduce inflation accounting, transfer the burden of tax from earnings to spending and return to a single positive rate of VAT.

The pamphlet also says the threshold for compulsory VAT registration should be doubled from £5,000 to £10,000 capital tax reliefs should be given for businesses passed on within the family and the transfer of wealth from the citizen to the state should be reversed.

To ease obstructions the group say employment protection legislation should be less severe on the small employer, the industrial development certificate threshold should be raised, and office development permits should be scrapped.

Protection should be provided from state subsidized competitors and the same pension rights given to the self-employed as to employees.

Japanese seek formula to meet Britain's hard line on car imports

By Clifford Webb

The British Government's latest warning that it may impose import controls on Japan unless it can extend the agreed 10 per cent share of the home market was much more strongly worded than has been disclosed publicly.

According to well-informed Tokyo sources, Mr Dell, the Secretary of State for Trade, has told Mr Tadao Kato, the Japanese Ambassador to Britain, that unless there is immediate action to contain imports Britain will first impose quota restrictions on members to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

They would be told simply:

"We are in an emergency situation and had to act quickly." Italy took similar action some years ago when it set a ceiling of only 1,000 cars a year for Japanese imports. Quota restrictions would have a major row on their hands.

Mr Peter Fletcher: "Target for anti-Japanese propaganda."

Talks continue on Vauxhall's new pay offer

By R. W. Shakespeare

A fresh attempt by Vauxhall Motors to secure a pay deal for 23,000 manual workers within the Government's 10 per cent ceiling was made in talks between senior management and union representatives yesterday. However, the outcome was not expected to be conclusive.

Vauxhall—owned by General Motors of America—has improved its original offer of an 8.5 per cent across-the-board increase which was rejected by the joint union negotiating team.

The company offered the basic increase of 9.6 per cent just inside the Chancellor's 10 per cent ceiling—and offered its workers the opportunity to earn up to 55 a week on top of this through a "self-financing" productivity deal.

The union negotiators had no clear mandate for acceptance of this deal since the proposals had mixed reception at a series of shopfloor meetings at Vauxhall's plants in Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port.

In addition JAMA must conduct its efforts to "police" imports in such a way that it does not run foul of the Japanese Fair Trading Commission.

With worldwide pressure building up for action to reduce Japan's enormous trade balance some of its leading industrialists are now conceding that changes are necessary.

The Soga Shisha recently reported Mr Mitsuru Ueda, president of Nissho-Iwai, one of the big trading companies special to Japan, as saying that Japan must adopt to new world economic conditions.

JAMA operates an unofficial allocation system controlling individual shipments to Britain. But with newcomers like Mitsubishi, already protesting that their share is inadequate and Subaru and Daihatsu about to begin selling in the United Kingdom, they clearly have a major row on their hands.

Japanese manufacturers are taking the ultimatum very seriously. It is understood that the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA) has called an emergency meeting to try to obtain agreement among its members to restrain shipments to members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

They would be told simply: "We are in an emergency situation and had to act quickly." Italy took similar action some years ago when it set a ceiling of only 1,000 cars a year for Japanese imports. Quota restrictions would have a major row on their hands.

Mr Peter Fletcher: "Target for anti-Japanese propaganda."

UK dealers in plea to Nissan

By Edward Townsend

Dealers for Japanese Datsun cars in Britain, who have been pressing for an end to the voluntary sales restriction imposed by Datsun UK, are to carry their campaign to Tokyo later this month.

The dealers, due to visit Japan as guests of Datsun, plan to lobby Nissan, the manufacturing company, and discuss the issue of Japanese car sales in Britain with officials of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association.

A dealers' action committee was to have met Datsun UK directors today to discuss ways of easing the restrictions, but the meeting was cancelled by the company because it also wished to discuss the matter with Nissan.

The cancellation, however, followed clear warnings from Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, that should Japanese car sales this year fail to match predictions from the industry that exports to Britain would show no significant rise on 1976, the Government would reconsider the imposition of import controls.

Mr Peter Fletcher, chairman of the dealers' committee, said they no longer wanted to be aligned out as the scapegoats for political interests or as the prime target for anti-Japanese propaganda by "certain interested factions".

Yours faithfully,
Edward Townsend

Mr Peter Fletcher: "Target for anti-Japanese propaganda."

North Sea oil gives sharp boost to industry profits

By David Blake

Gross trading profits of the industrial and commercial sectors rose quite sharply in the first half of this year from 27,800m in the second half of 1976 to £34,400m in the first half of this year, largely as a result of North Sea oil profits. The increase, after deducting stock appreciation, was larger in absolute and percentage terms, because the latest figures entail an effective rewriting of the history of the company sector in the first quarter of this year. The industrial and commercial company sector deficit is now estimated to have been £1,147m in the first quarter instead of the £528m estimated when figures first came out in July.

The deficit for the whole of 1976 is now put at £1,023m, compared with an estimate in July of £585m.

Revisions on this scale obviously cast doubt on the reliability of the latest figures for the net acquisition of financial assets, which apply to the second quarter of this year.

The estimate contained in the latest figures is that there was a deficit of £534m, with a fall in the value of stocks being a major component in the improvement.

The most important change in the second quarter was a sharp increase in gross domestic fixed capital formation.

The figures contain major revisions of first quarter statistics.

Yours faithfully,
David Blake

Mr Peter Fletcher: "Target for anti-Japanese propaganda."

Multinationals' role under state scrutiny

Computer news

Bullock indicated. Hardware employed 44,000 people for an £800m turnover; the services industry, 20,000 people with a £220m turnover.

Computing services represented a promising sector. Present activity included the Software Products Scheme; the National Enterprise Board's Insac Data Systems subsidiary; the National Computing Centre's Interlock project for off-shore programming; and the Computing Services Association's exports work.

The DoI was prepared to support suitable software projects as well as those involving hardware, Mr Bullock said. Indeed, the department was already spending more on application projects on software than on hardware.

The possibility of setting up a joint maintenance and marketing company to represent various United Kingdom computer companies abroad is being considered by the NEDO computer sector working party. Mr Asher confirmed. A consultant's report on this had been received by the group, which would put forward re-

commendations to the Government soon.

As well as the studies on multinationals and on overseas marketing, an examination of manpower aspects of the computer industry was being undertaken by the sector working party. The group had also discussed the convergence of computers and telecommunications.

SPL joins Insac

After last week's announcement of the sale of the SPL International software house by Simon Engineering to NDC Systems, a subsidiary of National Data Corporation (Canada) and the National Enterprise Board, Mr Peter Adams, SPL chairman and managing director, has forecast an expansion of activity in the near future.

The NEB's £500,000 loan agreement, Mr Adams says, will enable SPL to expand in its traditional markets (in Europe, in particular) and possibly in the United States, Japan and China.

Under the NEB's Insac Data Systems umbrella, Mr Adams hopes to market the RTL-2 real-time language in the United States.

Kenneth Owen

had left it late in the day.

Peripherals and terminals

represented a growing proportion of total systems—and a high proportion of the balance-of-payments gap. This was worrying, and the DoI would welcome proposals for support in this area.

Yours faithfully,
Peter Adams

Mr Peter Fletcher: "Target for anti-Japanese propaganda."

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